



A History Of

Mountain Grove Baptist Church

BAPT
BX
6480
G66
H57

Granite Falls, North Carolina

WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY

THE Z. SMITH REYNOLDS LIBRARY



CALL NO.



Baptist
Historical
Collection

GIFT OF

Mrs. Lester Sronce

Pastor's Message

In this brief history of Mountain Grove Baptist Church, we are privileged to share the trials and triumphs that have brought us through the past century as a congregation. It is evident that our forebearers were dedicated Christian men and women who shared a common goal of up-building the kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ. We sense a feeling of pride and kinship for we are a part of the continuing history of a great church.

Someone has said that history repeats itself. If this is true, we too shall experience conflicts and conquests. As in the past century, there will be times of testing, moments of achievement and thrusts of growth. Through it all we can be assured that our God who has sustained others will give us victory as well. Mountain Grove Baptist Church was founded one hundred years ago on Jesus Christ, the Solid Rock. Today, we too shall continue to endeavor to build a fellowship of believers in and through Jesus Christ.

One must look into the past way that our forebearers have traveled in order to interpret the present and plan for the future. As we continue our work and worship as a congregation, let us remember the words of the apostle Paul: "Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended; but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." Philippians 3:13-14.



CONTENTS

EX
6480
G66
H51

PASTOR'S MESSAGE	1
1ST CONTENTS	2
CHURCH COVENANT	3
ARTICLES OF FAITH	4
RULES OF DECORUM	7
COPIES OF ORIGINAL DEEDS	8
INTRODUCTION	15
GENERAL HISTORY	16
Sunday School	18
Church Training	19
Music Directors	19
Media Center	20
Mission Organizations	20
LIST OF PASTORS AND BIOGRAPHIES	22
DEACONS	46
PIONEER FAMILIES	47
INTERESTING FACTS	58
PICTURE SECTION	60
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND SOURCES	68
CHURCH ROLL	70

Church Covenant

As we trust we have been brought by divine grace, to embrace the Lord Jesus Christ by the influence of his Spirit to give ourselves up wholly to him. So we do now solemnly covenant with each other that God helping us we will walk together in him in brotherly love, that as members one of another for the glory of Christ in His Salvation of men. We will exercise a Christian call and watchfulness over each other, and as occasion may require, faithfully warn rebuke and admonish one another in the spirit of meekness, considering ourselves lest we also be tempted, that we will willingly submit to and conscientiously enforce, all wholesome discipline of the church, that we will uphold the worship of God and the ordinance of his house by regular attendance thereon, search diligently by the scripture, observe closet or family worship, and seek to train up those under our care to the glory of God in the salvation of their soul, that as we have been planted together in the likeness of his death by baptism and raised from an emblematic grave to walk in newness of life, especially will we seek divine aid to enable us to walk circumspectfully and watchfully in the world, denying all ungodlyness and every worldly lust, that we will remember the poor, and contribute cheerfully of our means for their relief, and for the maintenance of a faithful gospel ministry among us, and for the spread of the same to the ends of the earth, that we will endeavor, by example and effort to win souls to Christ, and through life amidst evil report and good report, and seek to live to the praise of him who both called us out of darkness into his marvellous light, to whom we glory and honor and power forever and ever. A-men.

Articles of Faith

1. We believe that the Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired, and is a perfect treasure of heavenly instruction, that it has God for its author, salvation for its end, and truth without mixture of error for its matter, that it reveals the principles by which God will judge us, and therefore is and shall remain to the end of the world, the true center of Christian union, and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds and opinions should be tried.
2. Of the true God, there is one, and one only living and true God, an infinite intelligent spirit whose name is Jehovah, the maker and supreme ruler of heaven and earth, in glorious holiness, and worthy of all possible honor, confidence and love, that is the unity of the God Head there are three persons, the father, the son and the holy ghost equal in every divine perfection, and executing distinct by harmonious offices, in the great work of redemption.
3. Of the fall of man, we believe that man was created in holiness, under the law of his maker, but by voluntary transgression fell from that holy and happy state, in consequence of which all mankind are now sinner, not by constraint, but of choice, being by nature utterly void of holiness required by the law of God, positively inclined to evil and therefore under just condemnation to eternal ruin, without defense or excuse.
4. Of the way of salvation, we believe that the salvation of sinners is wholly of grace, through the mediatorial office of the Son of God, by the appointment of the father, freely took upon him our nature, yet without sin, honored the divine law by his personal obedience, and by His death made a full atonement for our sins, that having risen from the dead, is now enthroned in heaven, and uniting his wonderful person, the tenderest sympathies with divine perfections, he is every way qualified to be a suitable, and compassionate and all sufficient Saviour.
5. Of Justification, we believe that the great gospel blessing which Christ secures to such as believe in him is justification, that justification includes the pardon of sin, and the promise of eternal life on principles of righteousness that it is bestowed not in consideration of any works of righteousness which we have done, but solely through faith in the redeemers blood, by virtue of which faith his perfect righteousness of freely imputed to us of God, that it brings us into a state of most blessed peace and favor with God and secures every other blessing needful for time and eternity.
6. Of the freeness of salvation, we believe the blessings of salvation are made free to all by the gospel, that it is the immediate duty of all to accept them by cordial penitent and obedient faith and that nothing prevents the salvation of the greatest sinner on earth but his own determined depravity and voluntary rejection of the gospel which rejection involves him in an aggravated condemnation.
7. Of grace in regeneration, we believe that in order to be saved sinners must be regenerated or born again, that regeneration consist in giving a Holy disposition to the mind, that it is effected in a manner above our comprehension by the power of the Holy Spirit in connection with divine truth so as to secure our voluntary obedience to the gospel, and that its proper evidence appears in the holy fruits of repentance and faith and newness of life.

8. Of repentance and faith, we believe that repentance and faith are sacred duties, and also inseparable graces, wrought in our souls by the regenerating spirit of God, where by being deeply convinced of our quiet, danger, and helplessness, and of the way of salvation by Christ we turn to God with unfeigned contrition, confession, and supplication for mercy, at the same time heartily receiving the Lord Jesus Christ as our prophet, priest and king and relying on him alone as the all sufficient Saviour.
9. Of God's purpose of grace, we believe that election is the eternal power of God, according to which he graciously regenerates, sanctifies and saves sinners, that being perfectly consistent with the free agency of man, it comprehends all the means in connection with the end, that it is a most glorious display of God's sovereign good, being infinitely free, wise, holy and unchangeable, that it utterly excludes boasting, and promotes humility, love, prayer and praise, and trust in God and active imitation of his free mercy, that it encourages the use of means in the highest degree that it may be ascertained by its effects in all who believe the gospel, that it is the foundation of Christian assurance, and that to ascertain it with regard to ourselves, demands, deserves the utmost diligence.
10. Of Sanctification, we believe that sanctification is the process by which, according to the will of God, we are made partakers of his holiness, that it is progressive work, that it is begun in regeneration and that it is carried on in the hearts of believers, by the presence and power of the Holy Spirit, the sealer and comforter, in the continual use of the appointed means, especially the word of God, self examination, self denial, watchfulness and prayer.
11. Of the preserverance of the Saints, we believe that such only are real believers and endure to the end that their persevering attachment to Christ, is the grand marks which distinguishes them from superficial professors, that a special providence watches over their welfare, and they are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.
12. Of the harmony of the law and the gospel, we believe that the law of God is the eternal and unchangeable rule of his moral government, that it is holy, just and good, and that the inability which the scripture ascribes to fallen man to fulfill its precepts, arises entirely from their love of sin, to deliver them from which and to restore them through a mediator, to unfeigned obedience to the holy law, is one great end of the gospel, and of the means of grace connected with the establishment of the invisible church.
13. Of a gospel church, we believe that a visible church of Christ is a congregation of baptized believers, associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the gospel, observing the ordinances of Christ governed by his laws, and exercising the gifts, rights and privileges invested in them by his word, that its only scriptural officers are Bishops or pastors, and deacons whose qualifications, claims and duties are defined in the epistles of Timothy and Titus.
14. Of baptism and the Lord's Supper, we believe that Christian Baptism is the immersion in water of a believer into the name of the father and the son and the holy ghost, to show faith in a solemn and beautiful emblem are faith in the crucified, buried and risen Saviour with its effects. Our death to sin and resurrection to a new life that it is prerequisite to the privileges of a church relation and to the Lords supper, in which the members of a church by the

sacred use of bread and wine, are to commemorate together the dying love of Christ preceded always by solemn self examination.

15. Of the Christian Sabbath, we believe the first day of the week is the Lords day of Christian Sabbath, and is to be kept sacred to religious purposes, abstaining from all secular labor and sinful recreations, by the devout observance of all the means of grace, both private and public and by preparation for the rest that remains for the people of God.
16. Of Civil Governments, we believe that Civil Government is of divine appointment for the interest and good of human society, and magistrates are to be prayed for, conscientiously honored and obeyed except in things opposed to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the only Lord of the conscience, and the prince of the kings of the earth.
17. Of the righteous and the wicked, we believe that there is a radical and essential difference between the righteous and the wicked, that such only as are justified through faith in the name of the Lord Jesus, and sanctified by the Spirit of God are truly righteous in his esteem, for all such as continue in unpenitency and unbelief are in his sight wicked and under the curse, and this distinction holds among men both in and after death.
18. Of the world to come, we believe that at the last day Christ will descend from heaven and raise the dead from the grave, for final retribution, that a solemn separation will then take place, that the wicked will be adjudged to endless punishment, and the righteous to endless joy, and that this judgement will fix forever, the final state of men in heaven or hell, on principles of righteousness.

Rules of Decorum

1. The church meeting shall be opened and closed by prayer.
2. The minister present shall be entitled to the office of moderation.
3. Only one person shall speak at a time, who shall rise from his seat and address the moderation.
4. The person thus speaking shall not be interrupted in his discourse, by any but the moderator, until he is done speaking.
5. The person speaking shall strictly adhere to the subject, and in no respect reflect on the person who spoke before, so as to expose his slips of failures, but shall fairly state the case so as to express their ideas.
6. No person shall abruptly absent themselves from the church, without leave obtained from the moderator.
7. No person shall rise to the same subject more than three times, without a liberty obtained from the moderator.
8. No member of the church shall have the liberty of laughing or whispering during the setting of the same in the time of public speaking.
9. No member of the church shall address another in any other terms or appellation but the title of brother or sister.
10. The moderator shall not interrupt any member, or prohibit them from speaking till they give their light on the subject except they break the rules of this ducorum.
11. The moderator shall be entitled to the same privilege of speech as another member, provided the chair be filled.
12. Every motion made and seconded shall come under the consideration of the church unless withdrawn by the person who made it.

Copies of Original Deeds

State of North Carolina
Leadsell County

This Deed, Made this the 25 day of August 1887 by J. B. Griffin & wife Julia B. Griffin of Leadsell County, and State of N. Carolina of the first part, to Mountain Grove Baptist Church in Leadsell County and State of N.C. of the second part,
Witnesseth: That said J. B. Griffin & wife Julia B. Griffin in consideration of the sum of One Dollar to them paid by the Mt. Grove Baptist Church receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, have bargained and sold, and by these presents do bargain sell and convey to said Baptist Church their heirs a certain tract or parcel of land in Leadsell County, State of N.C. adjoining the lands of J. B. Griffin and others bounded as follows, viz: Beginning on a Rock on the N. W. corner, Marked A, on E. side of the Lenoir & Seard Public Road & run N. S. Eastern Course with said road 13 P. to a rock, thence an Eastern Course 5 poles to the graveyard corner, thence Northern Course with the graveyard line poles to a stake, thence N. Western Course to the beginning containing one ha

are more or less. The above Church's
lot is given as long as a Baptist
Church exists or will exist on said lot
& whenever the said Baptist Church ceases
to exist & can not ever be established
then & in that case the above lot is to
fall back to the said J. G. Griffin & wife,
& their heirs or executors.

To Have and to Hold the aforesaid tract
of land and all privileges and appur-
tenances thereto belonging, to the said
Baptist Church their heirs and assigns
to its only use and behoof. And the
said J. G. Griffin & wife covenant that
they ~~are~~ seized of said premises in fee
and have right to convey the same in
fee simple, that the same are free
and clear from all incumbrances
and that they will warrant and defend
the said title to the same against the claim
of all persons whatsoever.

The Testimony Whereof, The said J. G. Gri-
ffin & wife Julia B. have herewith set
their hands and seals the day and year
above written.

Attest:
A. G. Carpenter.

J. G. Griffin Seal
Julia B. Griffin Seal
mark

State of North Carolina
Leakeville County J. A. G. Corpinus
Justice of the Peace, do hereby certify that
John G. Griffin and Julia B. Griffin
his wife, personally appeared before me
this day and acknowledged the due exe-
cution of the within deed of conveyance;
and the said Julia B. Griffin being by
privately examined separate and apart
from her said husband, touching her volun-
tary execution of the same doth state that
she signed the same freely and voluntarily
without fear or compulsion of her said
husband or any other person, and that
she doth still voluntarily assent thereto,
Witness my hand and private seal,
this 26th day of August A.D. 1887
J. A. G. Corpinus J.P. (Seal)

State of North Carolina }
Hendwell County } 3

The foregoing Certificate
of A. G. Learpuring, a Justice of the Peace of
Hendwell County, is adjudged to be in
due form and according to law.
Therefore, let the same, with this Certificate
be registered. Witness, my hand and
Official Seal, this 17 day of February 1888.

M. E. Shull,
Clerk Superior Court

Filed Feb 17, 1888 }
Registered Feb. 17, 1888 }

This Deed, made this 26 day of August in
the year of our Lord One thousand Eight Hun-
dred and Eighty seven between John J.
Griffin and wife Julia B. Griffin of the
County of Hendwell and State of North Car-
olina of the first part, and The Mountain
Gravel Baptist Church of the County of
Hendwell and State of N. Carolina of the
second part: Witnesseth that the said
parties of the first part, for and in Con-
sideration of the sum of One Dollar in
hand paid by the said parties of the se-
cond part, the receipt whereof is hereby
acknowledged, have given, granted, ob-
tained, sold, conveyed and confirmed,
and by these presents do give, grant,

bargain, sell, convey and confirm unto the said parties of the second part their heirs and assigns forever, all the following described piece or parcel of land, lying and being in the County of Loudwell and State of North Carolina, and known and designated as follows:

Beginning on the Eastern Church Lot corner & runs Jan Easterly course 7 poles to a stake thence a Northern Course 13 poles to a stake thence a Westerly course 7 poles to the Church Lot corner, thence a South Easterly course with Church Lot line 13 poles to the beginning containing $\frac{1}{2}$ of an acre more or less. It agreed that the above named lot of land be used for a public grave yard for the White Race & all the graves that are there, at this writing 26 day of August be included in said lot.

To Have and to Hold the same with the appurtenances thereunto belonging to the said Mountain Grove Baptist Church the parties of the second part their heirs and assigns forever. And the said parties of the first part, for the consideration aforesaid, do hereby covenant and agree to warrant and defend the premises aforesaid, to the parties of the second part, their heirs, Executors, Administrators and Assigns, against the claim and entry of all persons whatsoever, and do further covenant that they are seized of the premises in fee-

simple, and have power to make and convey such Estate by this Deed, and have done the same by these presents, to the said Mountain Grove Baptist Church parties of the second part. In Witness whereof the said parties of the first part have hereunto set their hands and seals the day and year first above written.

J. G. Griffin (Seal)
Julia B. Griffin (Seal)
mark

Signed Sealed and
delivered in the
presence of
A. G. Learpining

State of North Carolina
Henderson County

Be it Known, That on this 26th the day of August A.D. 1887, personally came before me J. G. Griffin, the signer and seller of the foregoing Deed, and acknowledged the same to be his own free act and deed. And Julia B. Griffin, wife of the said J. G. Griffin upon examination by me separately and apart from her husband, acknowledged that she executed the same freely and of her own accord for the purpose and intent therein expressed, and without any fear or compulsion from any one. Therefore, let this Deed, with this Certificate, be recorded.

A. G. Learpining J. P.

North Carolina } In the Superior Court.
Caldwell County }
The foregoing Certificate
of A. G. Carpenter, a Justice of the Peace
in Caldwell County is adjudged
to be correct. Therefore, let this
Deed, with the Certificate, be recorded.
This 17 day of February 1888,

M. E. Shell

Clerk, Superior Court.

Filed & Registered }
Feb. 17, A. D. 1888, }

Introduction

It is a difficult task to compile and edit an authentic history of our beloved Mountain Grove Baptist Church, Granite Falls, North Carolina. This has been a laborious task in getting information needed from our own membership, the Caldwell Association, The North Carolina Historical Collection in Winston-Salem, and individuals.

The minutes of the Association date back to 1869, and since Mountain Grove was organized in April, 1884 our church has been included in all the minutes since its beginning. Much of our information came from the very early minutes of our own church recorded when Mountain Grove was organized in 1884.

It has also been through the cooperation and assistance of many persons that we have been able to compile the historic information in the following pages, gathered into book form and distributed on the 100th anniversary of the church. Randy Gibson, a historian and genealogist, was immensely helpful in the history of many early families and in the organization of this history.

We, the committee, make no claim at being trained historians and doubtless have violated some of the principles of historical writing, but we believe there will be few factual errors. It is hoped that those who are interested in history will be able to use this as a reference.

In trying to keep the information factual, we have not been able to pay recognition to so many members who have rightfully deserved a place in this history. If we had listed each person who had had a part in the various church activities, or who had given so generously of their time and money to the operation of the church, the list would have been unusually long. Even though this would have been our wish, we ask the understanding of the church membership in this connection.

While the committee offers our sincere thanks to all who have helped in any way with this history, we would like to leave with you the words of Kablil Gibran who said:

You give but little when you give of your possessions. It is when you give of yourself that you truly give.

General History

A Presbytery consisting of Elders D. W. Conway, E. A. Poe, and Deacon J. M. Harris met with those holding letters at Mountain Grove on Saturday before the 3rd Sunday in April, 1884 and after the examination of the letters presented the following members were constituted into and declared to be a regular Baptist Church upon the Church Covenant and Articles of Faith as found in the Church Members Manual, via, John Z. Griffin, Julia B. Griffin, James P. Hood, W. D. L. Goble, and M. L. Goble, Martha Griffin, Susannah Griffin, M. L. Griffin, Salina Tolbert, Nancy Beach, Jane Beach and W. W. Beach, J. Z. Griffin was set a part to be office of Deacon by prayers and the imposition of hands, and D. W. L. Goble was appointed Church Clerk, opened the door of the church when sister Mary F. Hood came forward and was received on application having been regularly baptized into the fellowship of the Baptist Church, but had joined the Methodist and while in the Methodist — the Baptist Church she left dissolved.

E. A. Poe

D. W. Conway — Presbytery

J. M. Harris

First entry in minutes of Mountain Grove Baptist Church

Saturday before the third Sunday in May, 1884. The church met and after prayer and preaching by Elder D. W. Conway — seated in conference — inquired for fellowship — all was peace, invited brethren of sister churches to a seat, opened the door of the church for reception of members — none came forward, on motion agreed to call this church Mountain Grove Baptist Church — on motion adjourned — prayer by the moderation.

D. W. Conway, Moderator

W. D. Goble, Church Clerk

Taken from minutes of Mountain Grove Baptist Church.

Very little is known about the first building when the church met to worship. It is believed to have been a log building and the exact location is not known.

The second church was a frame building erected on the site of the present cemetery about 1905. This building was one large room where curtains were drawn to make Sunday School rooms. It was heated with a pot-bellied stove where the early arrivals gathered to exchange community news.

In approximately 1936, a third structure of brick was erected behind the present sanctuary. This church building has several Sunday School rooms in the basement.

The present sanctuary was erected in the early 1950's when Rev. LeRoy Thomas was pastor. An annex was added in 1962 for the Nursery, Beginner and Primary departments and also a Fellowship hall.

A multi-purpose building and recreational area was completed in 1979.



Sunday School

April, 1885, appointed Bros. J. Z. Griffin and Elisha Craig as Superintendents of Sunday School. The church at this time was being pastored by Elder D. W. Conway, who had been serving the church since it was organized in 1884.

The next mention in the minutes regarding the Sunday School was in April 1904. In March, 1912, Bros. Lewis L. Spann was elected as Sunday School Superintendent. In January, 1926, Mr. W. M. Smith was elected Sunday School Superintendent. At this time, the Church was having preaching services only once a month.

There is no mention in the minutes concerning literature used, so we can assume that only the Bible was used in the first teachings of the Sunday School. The teachers during those early years most probably were those men well-versed in the Bible and the classes contained the entire family including the children.

In 1908, after the white frame church was built, the classes were separated by ages. In order to have separate rooms, curtains were drawn and the different ages could remain together. Literature was becoming more available through the Baptist Sunday School Board or the Southern Baptist Convention and was finally furnished for the Mountain Grove Baptist Church classes.

In 1936, when Mountain Grove Baptist Church moved into the first little brick church, the classrooms in the basement did not hold all the Sunday School members, so again curtains had to be used in the auditorium for other classrooms.

In the early 1950's, Mountain Grove Baptist Church moved into the present plant. Here, there were enough classrooms with a few extra to fill up. The literature is graded for the different age groups, and each age group in departmentalized.

In December, 1979, the Multi-Purpose building was dedicated, and the entire lower level contains Sunday School rooms and a large multi-purpose room.

Classes — Departments Today

Sunday School Classes and Departments today are as follows:

Adult Departments No. 2 and 3 — 10 classes

Adult Department #1 — Married Young People: 2 classes
Single or Career Young People and
College Young People: 1 class

Youth Department (Grades 7-12): 2 classes

Grades 5 and 6: 1 class

Grades 3 and 4: 1 class

Grades 1 and 2: 2 classes

Preschool — 4 and 5 years: 1 class
3 years old: 1 class

Nursery

Our present Sunday School Director is Clifford Robbins.

Church Training

In the year of 1926 there was a growing interest in BYPU work in the association, and that same year our church set up a Baptist Young People's Union for those who were interested.

Miss Floy Smith (Mrs. Fred Melton) was the first BYPU director. There was one Senior Union reported with a total of twenty-five members. In the year 1932, a Junior Union was reported and 1939 an Intermediate Union was reported along with one Story Hour Group. In 1940, four unions were reported, adding an Adult Union this year. In 1951, eight Unions were reported.

There are currently three Adult Classes; one class for Young People (7-12); one class for 4th, 5th and 6th grades; one class for 1st, 2nd and 3rd graders; one class for Preschool and a Nursery.

Church Training enrollment now stands at 135.

Our present Church Training Director is J. Allan Smith.

Music Directors

Mountain Grove Baptist Church has had a paid music staff since 1965. Mack Fletcher was the first music/education director and is now service a second term. Other staff members have been V. Gilbert Bailey, William L. Lowe, Mrs. Sara Crump (Interim), Dennis Spaulding, Don Austin (Interim), Terry Crouse, and Robert Pritchard (Interim). Prior to this time, Mr. A. Lee Pearson was music director for many years.



Library/Media Center

The first librarian was Hazel Beane Brown. Books were donated to the church, and she processed them for circulation.

In the 1960's Rachel Smith was elected librarian and she worked one summer processing books. As she was living and working in Shelby at the time, it was difficult to keep the library open and keep the collection up to date.

In 1978, Charlotte Smith was elected Media Director and a Media Center was opened in one of the unused classrooms. Wanda Smith, Peggy Helton, Lynn Smith and Rachel Smith served as Media workers. Later Randa Mooney became a helper.

In 1981, an unused Sunday School Department was renovated to make a larger Media Center. It contains Audio Visual equipment and materials as well as books.

Four of the Media workers have earned Media Service Diplomas from the Southern Baptist Convention Awards Office.

At the present time the Media Center is open every Sunday Morning and evening as well as on Wednesday Night.

Mission Organization

The first Women's Missionary Union was organized in 1941, with the help of Mrs. C. A. Bowman. Mrs. Lettie Beane was the first president of W. M. U. Some of the original members of the first organization were: Lettie Beane, Katie Greene, Connie Smith, Kate Smith and Elvia Hollar.

The Caldwell County Minutes of 1947 list a G.A., R.A. and Sunbeam Organization. In 1952, the Caldwell County Minutes lists an organization for the Y.W.A.

Brotherhood work was mentioned in the Caldwell County Minutes for 1947, listing Mr. Alvin Herman as Director. However, the brotherhood was not an active organization until some years later.

Mrs. Beola Hood and Mrs. Anna Dean Smith were some of the first Y.W.A. Directors, and the first to take the girls to Ridgcrest.

The first White Bible Service took place in 1958, presenting Mary Ellen Greene with a White Bible.

The Organizations have grown over the years and all are active and an integral part of the church today.

In the fall of 1983, the W.M.U. voted to have a Christmon Tree for the first time. They met one night a week to make the Christmons and explained the meaning of the ornaments to the congregation in a Wednesday Night Service.

The present Mission Organizations include the Night Bible Study Group, B.Y.W., G.A.'s, Acteens, Missions Friends, R.A.'s and Brotherhood.

Edmund Oliver Poe (E. A.)

A Presbytery consisting of Elder D. W. Conway, E. A. Poe, and J. M. Harris, met with those holding church letters, in April 1884, to organize Mountain Grove Baptist Church. He was born in Chatham County, N.C. on April 4, 1829 and died November 15, 1910. Elder Poe attended Wake Forest College and graduated in the early eighteen sixties. He was ordained at Wake Forest, December 9, 1860.

Elder E. A. Poe was married to Elizabeth Corpening on December 23, 1860. They had ten children. He was one of two graduates of any college in the Catawba River Association. He was well educated and wrote the *History of the Catawba River Association*.

Elder Poe was chosen as the first principal of Catawba River Academy which opened in 1859. Elder Poe and his wife are buried at North Catawba Church in Caldwell County.

List of Pastors and Biographies

Pastors

1884-1891	David Washington Conway
1892-1895	J. F. Crisp
1896-1897	J. Z. Griffin
1898-1899	J. S. Gwaltney
1900-1901	D. L. Miller
1901	J. R. J. Annas
1902-1903	D. L. Miller
1904-1907	J. G. Benfield
1908-1909	J. A. Rector
1910-1912	W. N. Cook
1913-1919	E. D. Crisp
1921-1922	H. S. Benfield
1923-1924	P. S. Barber
1925	E. D. Crisp
1926-1928	R. A. Branch
1929	J. G. Benfield
1930-1932	L. A. Powell
1933-1934	Gurthrie Curtis
1934-1935	Sam Silvers
1935	Carl Devine
1936-1938	Grady Hamby
1938-1940	Clinnard Brooks
1941-1945	L. E. Snipes
1946	William Oliver
1947-1949	Grady Hamby
1950-1953	LeRoy Thomas
1954-1965	H. M. McGinnis
1966-1974	George Westmoreland
1975	J. E. Ledbetter (interim)
1976-1983	Thomas J. Lomas
1983	Steve Gandy

Elder David Washington Conway

*First Pastor of
Mountain Grove Baptist Church*

Elder David Washington (D. W.) Conway (October 18, 1817-July 20, 1891), helped to organize and was the first pastor of Mountain Grove Baptist Church. Elder Conway was the son of James H. Conway, a mathematician, who emigrated from Ireland. He taught school in Morganton and wrote Conway's Arithmetic Book.

The mother of Elder D. W. Conway was Polly Hayes, daughter of David Hayes and Margaret Blue Hayes, originally from Rowan County. Elder Conway received his education at a school in Morganton.

D. W. Conway married Cynthia Bradshaw, and they had three children: Mary, Martha and John. Cynthia died in September, 1858 at the age of 35. Later he married her sister, Fannie Bradshaw, and they had two children: Julia B. and William W. In the Census Records of Burke County, D. W. Conway was listed as a farmer and Minister.

In the Caldwell County Associational Minutes of 1878, Elder Conway is listed as pastor of Sardius Church, Caldwell County. Later, he became the first pastor and moderator of Mountain Grove Baptist Church. He remained here as pastor for several years. During this time, the church had preaching on the third Saturday Night and the following Sunday Morning. Therefore, Elder Conway pastored more than one church at a time. He was a pioneer Baptist, active in early churches in Caldwell County, helping to organize several of them.

His son, William W. Conway served as clerk, deacon and as pastor of Mountain Grove Baptist.

His grandson, Ivey Reid Conway was an active member until he moved to Lenoir to live with his daughter. He is the only person on record who was recommended by the deacons to become an honorary member of Mountain Grove Baptist Church. He served for several years as church clerk and deacon.

Other descendants of Elder E. W. Conway who will be remembered and known by many of the present church body are: great grandchildren: Connie Conway Smith and Maude Conway Eller; great, great grandchildren: Margaret Sconce, Rachel, Charlotte, Jim and Allan Smith; great, great, great grandchildren: Terry, Chris, Tim, Eric Smith and Beth Austin; and great, great, great grandson: Preston Austin.

Blanche Hice Pearson and Violet Hice Heffner are great grandchildren of Elder Conway. Their father was Wade Hice, son of Larkin and Mary Ann Conway Hice. Mary Ann was the daughter of D. W. Conway. Great great grandchild is Lillie Sharpe and great, great, great, grandchild is Robin Sharpe.

Elder John Crisp

Elder John Crisp was called as pastor of Mountain Grove Baptist Church in November 1892.

Elder John L. Crisp was born May 23, 1818, and died May 1, 1876. He was the son of Micager and Mary Crisp. He was born in Burke County, N.C. which is now Caldwell County. He was baptized on September 8, 1943 and became a member of the Valley River Church.

Elder Crisp was ordained on September 27, 1973 into the ministry. He served several churches, was a devoted and faithful member always ready to lend a helping hand.



Rev. J. Z. Griffin

Rev. John Z. Griffin was born 1849 and died in 1902. He was married to Julia B. Conway, who was born in 1853 and died in 1931. She was the daughter of David Washington and Fanny Bradshaw Conway.

Rev. John Z. Griffin was pastor of Mountain Grove Baptist church in 1896-1897. He and his wife gave the property where the first church was built.



Rev. James Solomon (J.S.) Gwaltney

James Solomon (J.S.) Gwaltney, Baptist minister and educator, was born at Hiddenite in Alexander County, North Carolina July 17, 1851. His parents were Nathan Gwaltney and M. Isabelle Gwaltney.

He died at his son's home on July 27, 1928, at the age of 77 years. His obituary in the Morganton News Herald included a sketch written by a friend of the family, Mr. F. L. Smith of Drexel, North Carolina, which states in part: "Solomon Gwaltney, venerable and respected minister of the Baptist Church passes. Reverend Gwaltney was a Baptist Minister for fifty years and a member of Zion Baptist Church at his death. He was a pioneer in fighting intemperence and a leader in the state in promoting the Eighteenth amendment. He was an outstanding character in his community and vocation in life."

Copied Burke County History

Rev. D. Lafayette Miller

Rev. D. L. Miller (1856-1948) was the fourth pastor of Mountain Grove Baptist Church. He was ordained at Mount Zion Baptist Church March 25, 1899. Rev. I. W. Thomas was moderator and S. D. Hefner signed the Ordination Certificate.

Rev. Miller was married twice. His second wife was Emma Coleman. Rev. Miller was the father of twenty-one children.

He pastored several churches in Caldwell County including Union Grove, Mt. Zion, Mountain and helped to organize Harris Chapel Baptist Church.



Rev. J. R. J. Annas

Rev. J. R. J. Annas was born in Caldwell County in December, 1849 and died in June, 1915. He was licensed to preach April, 1876, and ordained to the full work of the ministry November, 1880. He served several churches in Caldwell, Burke, McDowell, Catawba, Lincoln, Gaston, Iredell and Alexander Counties.



Rev. Joseph G. Benfield

Rev. Joseph G. Benfield was born March 30, 1875 and died July 13, 1952. He is buried in the Lower Creek Church cemetery, Lenoir, North Carolina. Rev. Benfield was born in Mitchell County, North Carolina, the son of Waits A. and Elizabeth Jaynes Benfield.

He attended Wake Forest College in 1898. He was called to the Mountain Grove Baptist Church, this being his first pastorate.

Rev. Benfield was married twice. His first wife was Reldia Harris, daughter of the late Rev. Jake Harris. His second wife was Mrs. Mamie Steel Blair. He had three children: Mrs. Dewey Annas, Mrs. Fritz Annas and Maynard Benfield.

Rev. Benfield served several churches in Caldwell County and Macon County. He was active as moderator of Caldwell Association. Rev. Benfield also taught in public schools in the state.



Elder John Andrew Rector

Elder John Andrew Rector was born April 15, 1840, on a farm five miles east of Connelly Springs and died at his home in Drexel, on January 11, 1923. He was married to his childhood sweetheart, Mary Frances Hoffman, born January 31, 1842 and died August 10, 1898.

Elder Rector was a faithful minister of the gospel for fifty-three years. He received his education in private schools and in Rutherford College, from the late R. L. Abernathy. He walked ten miles each day except in severe weather. For a time, he lived in Professor Abernathy's home.

He was ready for college when the War Between the States began, and his patriotic spirit led him to fight for his beloved Southland. He fought in the war under Captain Bristol and was wounded at the Battle of Gettysburg, being shot in the back. His name is among those on the Civil War monument in Morganton, N.C. While he was away, his wife lived with his widowed mother.

Elder Rector served churches in Burke, McDowell, Caldwell and Catawba counties for a period of fifty years. He taught the first public school in the town of Morganton, N.C. and served as chairman of the County Board of Education in Burke County in the year 1885. He taught school several years before surrendering to the call to the ministry. Elder Rector was thirty years old when he entered the ministry. During his early life, he was one of the leading preachers and teachers of his day. He did much toward helping improve educational standards throughout Western North Carolina.

Elder Rector served the Catawba River Association as clerk and moderator. He was moderator for the years 1880-1882 and 1884. He served as clerk in 1886, 1899-1901. He preached the introductory sermon in the years 1881, 1908 and 1916. He worked under the State Mission Board for a period of years establishing churches in destitute mountain sections. He rode horseback through rain and snow to keep his appointments of preaching and worship.

The life of Elder John Andrew Rector was one of sacrifice and a guiding star for the Baptist Cause. His background was of German and English ancestry.

William Newton Cook

William Newton Cook was born June 28, 1878, in Caldwell County, North Carolina. His parents, Margaret Hartley and William S. Cook, were farmers in the Globe Township. He was one of eight children.

Rev. W. N. Cook attended Wilson Creek Baptist Church and was baptized at the age of fifteen. He was licensed to preach by Wilson Creek on December 20, 1903, at the age of twenty-five.

Rev. Cook spent four years attending Lenoir Baptist College and Business Institute. On October 13, 1898, he married Mary Lezinka Bean. They became the parents of nine children.

Mrs. Cook helped her husband by serving as organist, Sunday School teacher and missionary leader. They served rural churches and Rev. Cook preached several Sunday sermons serving different churches.

He pastored churches in Caldwell, Catawba, Gaston, Cleveland and other counties. The Cook family moved to Jackson County on December 1, 1916. For several years he was associational director for Tennessee River and Tuckasee Association.

Rev. W. N. Cook was a successful evangelist and preached in Tennessee and Alabama and other places. He helped to establish the first Baptist Training Union west of Asheville, N.C.

Elder E. D. Crisp

Elder Dean Crisp was pastor of Mountain Grove in 1912-1913. He was the son of John H. Crisp who pastored Mountain Grove from 1892-1895.

Elder Crisp was well known throughout the Association as an earnest, loyal and tireless worker for the Baptist cause. He died in 1926 at his post of duty. Elder Crisp was at one time moderator of the Caldwell Association.



Rev. H.S. Benfield

Rev. H. S. Benfield was born February 18, 1882, near North Catawba Baptist Church. He attended school at Amhurst Academy and Teachers Training School, Morganton, N.C.

Rev. Benfield was married to Miss Lela Baker, September 3, 1899. He spent several years on the farm and sawmilling. Rev. Benfield taught school in Burke and Caldwell Counties for 12 years. He served as Superintendent of Sunday School for 16 years before beginning Pastoral work in 1919. His first church was Mountain Grove Baptist Church where he served from 1919 to 1921.

Records show that he baptized over 800 people, performed 190 marriage ceremonies and conducted over 250 funerals. He retired from fulltime ministry on February 29, 1950. Rev. Benfield died October 29, 1958.



Rev. P. S. Barber

Rev. P. S. Barber was pastor of Mountain Grove Baptist Church from 1923 to 1925. He moved to Gastonia and died there in either 1964 or 1965. Rev. Barber was a member of West Franklin Avenue Baptist Church in Gastonia, at the time of his death.

Rev. William W. Conway

William W. Conway was the son of Elder David Washington Conway and Fannie Bradshaw Conway. His father, D. W. Conway, was one of the founders of Mountain Grove Baptist Church and the first pastor.

Rev. W. W. Conway served Mountain Grove as church clerk, deacon and pastor. He was licensed and ordained by Mountain Grove Church.

Rev. Conway married Nancy Lou Harris on February 19, 1880, and they had one son, Roby.



Rev. R. A. Branch

Rev. R. A. Branch was pastor of Mountain Grove Baptist Church from 1926 to 1928. He died in either 1938 or 1939. Rev. Branch was a member of the First Baptist Church of Lenoir, North Carolina.

Rev. Lee Powell

Rev. Lee Powell was born in Cleveland County, the son of Manley and Ida Powell. He was born in 1890 and died October 31, 1976 at the age of 95.

Rev. Powell attended Drexel Grade School. He attended Mars Hill College one term and Gardner Webb College for four years. He also did some work at Lenoir-Rhyne College and spent one term with Baltimore School of the Bible.

Rev. Lee Powell was baptized, licensed and ordained by the First Baptist Church of Drexel. His first pastorate was at Mountain Grove Baptist Church from 1930-1933.

He worked for the town of Drexel for 11 years, serving as its Mayor from 1931-1936. He left Drexel and pastored several churches in Maryland and Pennsylvania before returning to Drexel in 1970.

Rev. Powell is buried in Zion Methodist Cemetery in Burke County.



Rev. Lee Powell

Rev. Lloyd Guthrie Curtis

Rev. L. G. Curtis (June 29, 1907-April 13, 1960) was the son of Jones Curtis and Nora Victoria Curtis. He was married to Mary Harris Curtis and they had three children: Mrs. Ava Holley, Mrs. Sue Wilson and Johnny G. Curtis.

Rev. Curtis was converted August, 1931, and was licensed to the ministry in 1932. He served as pastor of Mountain Grove Baptist Church, which was part time, from 1933 to Oct. 1935. At the same time he was serving two other part time churches — Center Grove Baptist and Poovey's Chapel.

In October, 1935, he left and went to pastor the First Baptist Church in Daisey, Tennessee. From Tennessee he went to Alabama and was pastor of Calvary Baptist Church in Andalusia, Alabama at the time of his death.

Rev. Curtis is buried in the cemetery at the First Baptist Church, Hudson, N.C.

The above information was furnished by the daughter of Rev. Curtis, Mrs. Ava Holley, and wife, Mrs. Mary Curtis. Mrs. Holly sent a copy of a book of sermon outlines by Rev. Curtis "Gleanings From the Gospels" published by Christ for the World Publishers, Orlando, Florida.



Rev. Sam Silvers

Rev. Sam Silvers served Mountain Grove Baptist Church as pastor from late December, 1934 to February, 1935. His first sermon was on Amos 3:3, "Can two walk together except they be agreed."

Rev. Silvers pastored three churches half time: Grandview Park, Harris Chapel and Miller Hill. He pastored eleven churches in the Caldwell Baptist Association, two churches in Burke County and one in Florida.

Rev. Silvers is originally from Old Fort. Flemings Chapel Baptist Church is his home church. Rev. Silvers felt the call to preach at twenty-three but did not begin preaching until he was 29.



Rev. Carl L. Devine

Rev. Carl L. DeVine was born in Lincolnton, North Carolina in 1899 and died May 13, 1969. He received his education at the Fruitland Bible Institute in preparation for his ministry.

Rev. DeVine was in the ministry for 42 years. He served the following churches in North Carolina: Reepsville at Vale, Abee's Grove at Valdese; Cottonville and Antioch in Stanley County; Skyland in Kannapolis; East Valdese and Carpenter's Grove near Shelby; Mountain Grove in Caldwell County; and Braufort and Marshallbury Church.

Rev. DeVine is buried in Carolina Memorial Park in Concord, N.C.

Rev. Grady Allen Hamby

Rev. Grady Hamby was born June 18, 1900, in Ashe County, North Carolina. He died August 10, 1967, while living in the Baton Community.

Rev. Hamby served Mountain Grove Baptist Church twice as pastor. He first served from 1934-1937, preaching once a month. He served full time from 1946-1950.

Rev. and Mrs. Hamby had five children: Allan, Mabel, Earl, Howard and Edna. His son, Allan, is presently a member of Mountain Grove. Rev. Hamby is remembered by many of the present members of the church and many were baptized by him. He is remembered as a beloved pastor who encouraged the young people in the church to further their education.

While Rev. Grady Hamby was pastor the first parsonage was built in 1946. Also, a building fund was started for the present church while he was pastor.



Rev. J. Clinnard Brooks

Rev. J. Clinnard Brooks was born in Caldwell County, the son of J. E. and Etta Brooks.

Rev. Brooks and his wife, Mildred, have three children.

Rev. Brooks has retired after 49 years in the ministry in North Carolina. He served churches in both eastern and western North Carolina. In Western North Carolina he served: Mountain Grove, Globe, Connelly Springs, Dudley Shoals, Nelson's Chapel, Mt. Olive and Mulvale.

His home church was North Catawba.

His wife has retired from the North Carolina Public Schools, and they are making their home in Wake Forest, North Carolina.



Brooks

Rev. Luther E. Snipes

Rev. Luther E. Snipes was born in Burke County and attended elementary school in Burke County. He attended High School and Gardner Webb College. Rev. Snipes took refresher courses at Mars Hill College.

During his ministry, Rev. Luther Snipes pastored 27 Baptist Churches. In 1961, he retired from his pastoral duties but continued in evangelistic and supply work.

Rev. and Mrs. Snipes had 6 children. He is a author of two books:

*Love More — Live Longer and
Climbing the Mountain with God.*



Rev. LeRoy Asbury Thomas

Rev. LeRoy A. Thomas was born May 18, 1894, and died June 19, 1978. He was pastor of Mountain Grove Baptist Church from 1950-1954.

Under his leadership the present main Sanctuary and original Sunday School plant were built. One of the most memorable events of his pastorate at Mountain Grove was that he personally led log cutting crews in cutting timbers to defray the cost of construction of the new Sanctuary and Educational plant. He was always present and helping the men of the church when work crews were needed.

Rev. Thomas will also be remembered for his helpfulness and encouragement to the young people of the church.

Rev. and Mrs. Thomas had four children. Their son, Don, is a teacher at West Caldwell High School.



Rev. Howard M. McGinnis

Rev. H. M. McGinnis was born January 11, 1913, in Monroe, North Carolina, in Union County. He was pastor of Mountain Grove Baptist Church from February, 1954-June, 1964.

During his pastorate at Mountain Grove the mortgage on the present Church building was paid off, a Utility Building was constructed and paid for, two acres of land between the church and cemetery were bought and the lot on Conway Drive was bought and paid for.

Other accomplishments during his pastorage were the landscaping, lining-up of headstones and grassing the Cemetery. The parking lot was graded and black-topped.

Mountain Grove gave Rev. McGinnis a trip to the Holy Land in 1960. He was gone for over six weeks on the trip, took over 800 slides and showed them in churches around the county.

Rev. and Mrs. McGinnis had three children: Bill, Joe and Jean.

Rev. McGinnis is a member of Mountain Grove at the present time. He stated that he remembered Mountain Grove as one of his most pleasant pastorates. He resides at Route #10, Hickory, North Carolina.



Rev. George Westmoreland

Rev. George Westmoreland was born Sept. 28, 1910, and resides in Pace, Florida at this time. He was pastor of Mountain Grove Baptist Church for eleven years.

A new parsonage was built while he was pastor. Other accomplishments while he was pastor were: the first Music/Educational Director was added to the staff, a full-time Secretary was added, the first Activity Bus was purchased, the Choir Loft was enlarged, Fiberglassed the Baptistry, Chimes were placed in the tower of the church and Sunday School Rooms were added.

Rev. and Mrs. Westmoreland had two children, Glenn and Betty. Glenn and his family were members of Mountain Grove and Celeste was the first fulltime Secretary. Glenn and Celeste are now living in Raleigh, North Carolina.

Rev. Westmoreland is presently serving the Wallace Baptist Church, Pace, Florida.



Rev. Thomas Jerry Lomax

Rev. Thomas Lomax was born in Monroe, North Carolina, May 3, 1935. He attended Unionville High School, graduating in 1955. Rev. Lomax graduated from Wingate Junior College, Wingate, North Carolina in 1957, with the Associate in Arts Degree. In 1969, he received the Bachelor of Arts Degree from Atlantic Christian College, Wilson, North Carolina. Rev. Lomax graduated from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, North Carolina in 1972, with the Master of Divinity Degree.

Rev. Lomax became a Christian at the age of 14, and joined Benton Cross Roads Baptist Church near Monroe. He felt the call to the Christian Ministry in 1958.

He has been pastor of several churches in North Carolina and active in the different associations.

Rev. Lomax came to Mountain Grove Baptist Church in 1976, and the multi-purpose building was built while he was pastor.

During his ministry at Mountain Grove, the church remained in the top ten percent of the 65 churches in the association in cooperative program gifts, Sunday School enrollment and attendance, and baptisms.

Rev. Lomax has three children: Jeffrey, Mark and Teresa. Since leaving Mountain Grove in February, 1983, he has been serving as Associate Pastor/Education at Merrimon Baptist Church, Asheville, North Carolina.



REV. THOMAS LOMAX

Elder James Justice Lee Sherwood

Elder J. J. L. Sherwood was born in Smith County, Virginia on February 7, 1843. He died October 18, 1917. Elder Sherwood professed faith in Christ and joined Faith Baptist Church in 1859, and he was licensed to preach by the same church on February 5, 1864.

Elder Sherwood was ordained to the ministry by Young's Chapel Baptist Church, Grayson County, Virginia on April 14, 1867. He was an active minister of the gospel: faithfully performing his duties as such in Washington and Grayson Counties, Virginia from 1867 until 1882. From there he moved to Trade, Tennessee where he lived for about eighteen months. From there he moved to Watauga County in 1883. He served many churches in Watauga, Caldwell and Johnson counties. Elder Sherwood was an active pastor for more than fifty years.

Elder Sherwood was married to Miss Sarah Ann Young of Grayson County, Virginia, on May 7, 1867. They had eleven children, nine of whom survived. However, due to ill health, he was deprived of her companionship for many years. She died in the state hospital at Morganton on October 10, 1817.

Elder J. J. L. Sherwood was a student all his life. He took the Bible as the Supreme authority on Faith and practice. During his ministry, he baptized about 3,500 persons. He read the Bible through 85 times besides his topical reading. Elder Sherwood was moderator of the Three Forks Association in August 1812.

Elder Sherwood is buried in the Adams Grove Cemetery — located seven miles north west of Boone on the Tennessee Highway No. 421.

Rev. Richard Steven Gandy

Rev. Steve Gandy was born March 29, 1951 in Joplin, Missouri. He is the son of Richard Melvin and Maurice Ashford Gandy.

Rev. Gandy graduated from Westlake High School, Westlake, Louisiana in 1969. In 1977, he graduated from Wayne Community College and in 1979 from Atlantic Christian College. Rev. Gandy received the Master of Divinity Degree from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in 1982.

Prior to coming to Mountain Grove Baptist Church in August, 1983, Rev. Gandy was pastor of Norlina Baptist Church, Norlina, North Carolina.

Rev. Gandy and Janette Williams were married in 1971, and they have one daughter Kresha.

Deacons who have served and are still serving MOUNTAIN GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH

Annas, Hezekiah	Honeycull, G. H.
*Anderson, Calvin	*Hood, Frank
Beane, B. B.	*Hood, J. D.
*Beane, Ronald	*Kimberlin, J. R.
Beane, Tim	Lutz, A. P.
*Bolick, Lee	*McGinnis, James
Bolick, Lewis	McLeod, J. E.
*Bolick, Midas	*Matthews, Jack
*Bolick, Ray	Miller, D. L.
Bolick, Walter	*Pearson, A. Lee
*Bowman, Thomas	Pennell, Thomas
*Cannon, Carl	*Pope, Lonnie
*Cannon, Felix	Pope, Oliver
Cannon, W. M.	*Powell, Jesse
Carpenter, Howard	*Pritchard, Jack
Conway, I. R.	*Smith, Allan
Conway, W. W.	*Smith, Dan
Craig, C.	Smith, Herbert
Crump, J. S.	*Smith, James Conway
*Early, Harold	Smith, J. L.
Eller, Richard	Smith, J. M.
Elrod, J. M.	Smith, Jules
Evans, W. L.	Smith, Larkin
Greene, Lindsey	*Smith, Robert
Griffin, J. Z.	*Smith, Toby
Hall, Ivey	Smith, W. M.
*Hamby, Allan	Sullivan, Carroll
*Hayes, Ernest	Swanson, Haywood
Herman, Arvin	*Whisenant, Jay
Hollar, Roy	*Winkler, Virgil
*Holman, Haywood	*Woodie, Larry

*Indicates active and inactive deacons at the present time.

Pioneer Families

A. Ambrose Lutz

Mr. Ambrose Lutz was one of the early members and Church Clerks of Mountain Grove 1894-1895. He was married to Mary Ann Smith (August 6, 1849-November 26, 1934). His granddaughter, Mrs. Johnsie Lutz Houk remembers living with her grandparents. She said Mr. Lutz helped with the remodeling of the old church and helped build some new pews.

Mrs. Lutz would bake the Communion Bread and Mrs. Houk said she liked to eat the left overs.

Mrs. Houk remembers driving to church with her grandparents in a horse drawn buggy. Her Aunts and Uncles Frances and Chamlas Evans and Alice and Walter Evans would drive a horse and surry with the fringe on top.



James Coffey

James Coffey (January 18, 1838 - February 26, 1915) and wife, Sarah Craig (October 10, 1844 - May 31, 1912), were pioneer members of Mountain Grove Baptist Church. Mr. Coffey served as church clerk for several years.

The Coffey family lived on what is now known as the Kaylor farm. They had 10 children, six sons and four daughters. Grandson, Bob Coffey, now 90 years of age, and son of Finely, remembers visiting his grandparents and hauling corn in a horse drawn sled. He also remembers his sisters, Hattie Coffey Reid and Lottie Coffey, being baptized in a pool, coming from a spring, located below the present home of Lester Moretz on the Baton Church Road. The water was so cold that the pool was frozen over. They broke the ice and went ahead with baptizing. The girls had to walk up to a log house on the hill (where the Kimberlin house now stands) to change into dry clothes. Their wet clothes were frozen.

James and Sarah's daughter, Laura, married Harvey Smith, parents of Bertha Smith Bolick, a long time member of Mountain Grove. Another daughter, Elvia Smith Hollar, now deceased, was a member of Mountain Grove. Both have children, grandchildren and great grandchildren who are members of the church today.

Mr. and Mrs. James Coffey are buried in the Mountain Grove Baptist Church Cemetery.

James Honeycutt

Mr. James Honeycutt and Laura Annas were married February 21, 1896. Laura was the daughter of Henry Annas and Clarice Smith Annas. They had eleven children, five girls and six boys.

Mr. and Mrs. Honeycutt were members of Mountain Grove Baptist Church in the early days. They lived a peaceful life for many years, farming, hauling wood, selling some butter and eggs. They moved to Rhodhiss and did some mill work, but moved back and lived near where Baton Baptist Church is now located.

In the summer time, when revival services were held at Mountain Grove, Mr. Honeycutt would hitch the horse to the wagon and come to church. Mrs. Grace Honeycutt Thompson said that one of her most vivid pictures is of her mother sitting by the window reading from the large family Bible.

Mr. Honeycutt died April 9, 1934, of a sudden heart attack. Mrs. Honeycutt died June 15, 1936, also of a heart attack.

Children of Mr. and Mrs. Honeycutt belonging to Mountain Grove Church today are Mrs. Bertha H. Munday and Mrs. Clara H. Beane. There are also grandchildren and great grandchildren.



Rev. Larkin Hice

Rev. Larkin Hice was married to Mary Ann Conway, daughter of D. W. Conway. They were members of Mountain Grove Baptist Church in the pioneer days, and Rev. Hice preached several times when the pastor was absent.

They had three sons: Wade, Charles and Jones.

Mr. Wade Hice married Etta Hice, and they have five daughters: Blanche, married A. Lee Pearson; Elsie, married Will Bolick; Lucy (never married), Dora , married Alvin Smith and Violet, married Elmore Heffner.

Two of the granddaughters of Rev. Larkin Hice are members of Mountain Grove today. They are Mrs. Blanche Pearson and Mrs. Violet Heffner.

Rev. and Mrs. Hice are buried in the Mountain Grove Church cemetery.

Julius Monroe Smith

According to copies of the minutes Julius Monroe (J. M.) Smith (September 29, 1869 - March 26, 1922) served as Church Clerk from 1902-1904. He also served as treasurer in 1907 and as a deacon. He was married to Virginia Elizabeth Kelly (Jan. 24, 1878 - May 3, 1956).

Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Smith operated a General Store which served as the Baton Post Office. They had several children who were active in the growth of Mountain Grove Baptist Church.

Their oldest son, J. L., served the church for several years as church clerk, deacon, Sunday school teacher and trustee.

Two children, Gordon and Genette, are members of the church at the present time as well as several grandchildren and great grandchildren.



James P. Hood

James P. Hood (Aug. 21, 1850 - Nov. 18, 1927) was married to Mary Frances Hood (Oct. 10, 1852 - June 1, 1897) and was one of the early church families. They are buried in the North Catawba cemetery.

Two of their children, John David Hood and Jane Hood Cannon were life long residents living on the Dry Ponds Road and members of Mountain Grove Baptist Church. They were active members in the early days of the church.

Frank, Murl and Ila Hood Collins are children of John David and Betty Hood, and are members of Mountain Grove today. Children of Jane Hood Cannon attending Mountain Grove today are: Carl, Glenn and Callie Cannon Pope.



James Monroe Elrod

Mr. James Monroe Elrod (September 12, 1861 - April 21, 1950) and his wife Etta Critcher Elrod (1862-1951) moved to the Baton Community around 1914 and joined Mountain Grove Baptist Church. They lived on the old Ambrose Lutz farm and lived in a log house built by Ambrose Lutz. They had eight sons: Frank, Edward, Earl, Dock, George, Fred, Thomas and Richard, and three daughters: Eula, Ila and Mae.

Rev. Elrod was active in Mountain Grove Church. He preached in other local churches and served as a supply preacher. He was never paid with money for his services, but he received milk, butter, eggs, sometimes a chicken or other food.

His granddaughter, Ruth Whisenant, remembers her grandfathers prayers as they were "loud and long."

Several of Rev. Elrod's descendents are members of Mountain Grove today. They are children of his son, George. Rev. James Elrod's grandchildren are Ruth Elrod Whisenant, and Howard Elrod; great grandchildren are David Elrod and Sherry Robertson, and great, great grandchild, Derrick Robertson.



Mr. D. W. Smith

Mr. D. W. (Dock) Smith (November 16, 1873 - ?) and Maybelle Smith Smith (August 7, 1888 August 28, 1948) were members of Mountain Grove Baptist Church for many years.

Two of their daughters, Mrs. Alpha Smith McGinnis and Ruth Smith Cannon and one son, James (Dimp) Smith are members of the church at the present time. Mr. Smith's grandchildren belonging to Mountain Grove are James McGinnis, Joyce Cannon Stephens and Faye Cannon Greene. He also has several great grandchildren who are members of the church.



Mr. and Mrs. Bascom B. Beane

Mr. Bascom Beane (Feb. 9, 1895 - Jan. 5, 1980) and Mrs. Lettie Kaylor Beane (Feb. 25, 1895 - Aug. 9, 1958) were married Feb. 8, 1914.

They had seven children, six of whom survive. They are: Hazel Brown, Perry (Buck) Beane, Lucille Beane, Mildred Munday, Jack Beane and Bennie Sue Rector.

Mr. Beane was a deacon and Sunday School teacher for a number of years. Mrs. Beane was the first President of the Women's Missionary Union. She also started the fund for the first Organ purchased by the church. Mrs. Beane was active in the fund raising projects for the new building. At one time, when some problems came up, she said "We will build in spite of the devil."

Two of the children, Lucille and Mildred, grandchildren and great-grandchildren are members of Mountain Grove Baptist Church today.



B. B. BEANE



LETTIE BEANE

Waitsell M. Smith

Mountain Grove Baptist Church was a major factor in the bringing up of the family of Waitsell Smith. This church was a great influence in the spiritual as well as the social life of this family. There appeared to be a feeling of kinship among the scattered neighbors, and many close ties were formed. Family members have fond memories of the closeness of the Ivey Conway family, as well as many more of these community friends and relatives whose principal interest lay in the church.

Mr. Waitsell Smith was the son of Mr. and Mrs. John H. Smith, and they attended North Catawba when he was a youth. In 1888, following his first marriage to Isabella Courtney, a Methodist, they attended the Methodist as well as the Baptist Church.

His wife died, leaving Waitsell with four young sons - Marvin, Benjamin, Herbert and Lloyd. Mr. Smith married Alice Smith and they had the following children: Ervin, Boyce, John, Floy, Myrtle, Clyde, Ruth and Bonnie. Mr. and Mrs. Smith and children were all united with Mountain Grove Baptist Church.

Mr. Waitsell Smith served many years as Sunday School Superintendent, teacher, church clerk and deacon.

He died April 11, 1946, and was buried in Mountain Grove Cemetery beside his wife, Alice, who died February 17, 1933.

Quoting from the Biblical Recorder of May 29, 1946, it was said of him, "He was a Christian gentleman and sincerely loved his fellowman."

Mr. Smith's daughter, Floy Smith Melton, and granddaughter Ann Melton Compton are members of Mountain Grove Baptist Church today.





Mrs. Waitzell M. (Alice) Smith

Oldest Member

Mrs. Katie Greene, Born September 29, 1892, is the oldest living member of Mountain Grove Baptist Church. She was married to J. Lindsey Greene (May 10, 1884 - September 29, 1957). They had five children: Carl, Howard, George, Roy and Ruth.

Mrs. Greene helped to organize the first W.M.U. at Mountain Grove. She taught the Adult Ladies Sunday School Class and has been a faithful member since they moved to the Baton Community and joined Mountain Grove Baptist Church.

Her sons, George and Howard and their families are members of Mountain Grove Baptist Church today. Mr. Greene was a deacon and faithful member before his death.



Mrs. Callie Cannon Pope

Mrs. Callie Cannon Pope (October 4, 1899), has been a member of Mountain Grove Baptist Church for 70 years, longer than any other resident member. She was baptized in 1912, at the age of 13.

Mrs. Pope is the daughter of the late William Cannon (Dec. 6, 1871 - October 2, 1958) and Martha Jane Hood Cannon (March 15, 1878 - May 18, 1949). She lived on a farm and went to work in the cotton mill at the age of 12 or 13. There were 10 children in her family. Two of her brothers, Carl and Glenn Cannon, also belong to Mountain Grove Baptist Church.

On December 11, 1918 she was married to the late Oliver Pope, who was a deacon at Mountain Grove for many years.

They adopted a daughter, Annie Bumgarner, in 1923. She married Carroll Helderman on December 21, 1947. Mr. and Mrs. Helderman have one son, Edward, and all are members of Mountain Grove.

At the present time, Mrs. Pope is a resident of Hilltop Rest Home in Lenoir, North Carolina.



William and Mary Bean

William "Will" Jones Bean was born August 24, 1867, and after the death of his mother was reared in the North Catawba area by an uncle, Tom Bean.

Mr. Bean had a deep desire for learning and to have an understanding of the law. He purchased law books and studied them at night by the light of a kerosene lamp. He served as magistrate for Caldwell County and performed many marriages.

William Bean married Mary Elizabeth Smith on September 8, 1889. They had six children: Ellis-deceased, Cora B. Childers-deceased, Horace-deceased, Lona Bean Smith, Ransom Bean and Esper Bean Hollar.

The Will Bean family joined Mountain Grove Baptist Church around 1905 and actively supported the church as long as they lived. Lona, Ransom and Esper and many of Will's descendants are members of the church at the present time.

Their son, Horace Elbert, born on August 18, 1895, married Kitty Hilton on April 22, 1917. He served as Sunday School Superintendent and as church treasurer.

Horace and Kitty had four children. Ray, Howard and Gail Bean Duncan are currently members of Mountain Grove Church.

Mr. and Mrs. Will Bean and Mr. Horace Bean are buried in the Mountain Grove Church cemetery.

Mrs. Kitty Hilton Bean is one of the oldest living members of the church, having been a member for 69 years.



Interesting Facts

1. September 1884, the church agreed to unite with the Catawba River Association.
2. April, 1885, Appointed Bros. J. Z. Griffin and Elisha Craig as Superintendents of Sunday School.
3. September 1888, passed a by-law if any member drink alcohol or swear, and the church acts on it, and he commit a second offense of the same kind, excluded him.
4. February, 1889, agreed that on Saturday of next meeting we will fix up a box of things for the Orphanage at Thomasville.
5. July 1, 1889, Bro. William Conway was licensed to preach.
6. August, 1889, agreed to build a church house 45 by 35 and 12 feet high. Appointed a building committee of Leonard Annas, Otto Richards, J. S. Crump - Subscriptions were written for the building committee and they were to report monthly and let the church know the amount subscribed.
7. February, 1890, Set apart Thursday and Friday the 27th and 28th of February to work on the church.
8. March 1890, set apart Thursday before the 5th Sunday to chop and haul logs to make ceiling in the church house.
9. March 22, 1907, Collection for the China famine \$1.28.
10. November 11, 1945 - The Church voted to adopt the envelop system.
11. July 14, 1946, A motion was made and carried for full-time preaching and the pastor was to be paid \$35.00 per week, beginning the first week in August.
12. 1947, Built first parsonage while Rev. Grady Hamby was pastor.
13. Some years ago, a young girl's cousin gave her some "Sneeze powder." She, along with some friends, blew the sneeze powder at two deacons, Mr. Ivey Conway and Mr. Waitsell Smith, causing them to sneeze. The girls had to cover their heads with their coats to keep from laughing. Only the first names of the girls will be mentioned here: Ruth, Rachel, Neely, and Irene.

Two are members of the church today.

Did You Know?

For many years a committee or a member was sent by the church to visit members who were absent to find out why and tell them to report at the next meeting time.

For many years, members of the church were excluded for cursing, drinking, disorderly conduct, and even for non-attendance. However, this was done only after following Biblical example and visiting guilty party. , party.

At one time we had a "Birthday Bank". On Sunday, if you had had a birthday during the week, you dropped in a penny for each year you had lived. This money was sent to the Orphanage.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Greene (Ruth Smith) was the first couple to be married in the first brick church.

Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Buckner (Marlene Baker) was the first couple to have a formal wedding in the first brick church.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Matthews (Doris Smith) was the first couple to be married in the present sanctuary.

The tombstone in Mountain Grove Cemetery with the oldest date is Anna Ennis (Born 1883 - dies 1885) daughter of W. D. & L. J. Ennis.

Picture Section



Conway Cemetery — Grave Stones of Elder David Washington and Cynthia B. Conway.



Home of Elder D. W. Conway



Mr. & Mrs. Carroll Helderman Wedding



Rev. Luther Snipes — Mr. ~~Arthur~~ Monday



Rev. + Mrs. Le Roy Thomas



Home of First Pastor, D. W. Conway



George + Etta Elrod 1915



George, Etta & Howard Elrod



J. L. + Connie Conway Smith



Baptismal Service



Baptism at Castle Bridge



Parsonage Under Construction



Mr. & Mrs. William C. Cannon



Ambrose Brothers (Wutz)



Baptismal Service



Breaking Ground for Present Sanctuary



Mr. & Mrs. Richard Eller (Maude Conway)



Mtn. Grove Church in progress of building.



Jim & Etta Elrod Family 1898



Mr. J. L. Greene



Planting for The Lord's Acre



*Mr. & Mrs. Ivey R. Conway — Grandson of
M. D. Conway*



Multi-Purpose Building



Mtn. Grove Church Parsonage



75th Anniversary of Haywood and Nancy Honeycutt



Marlene and Clayton Buckner 1950



Sunday School Class



Deacons and Trustees



Sunday School Class



Adult Sunday School Dept.



1966 First Coronation

Acknowledgements

Randy Gibson - Historian and Genealogist
Ruth Whisenant
Rachel Smith
Charlotte Smith

These persons have met with the Historical Committee of Mountain Grove Baptist Church and helped with the research and organizing the materials for this book. We would like to thank these for their help and assistance.

HISTORICAL COMMITTEE

Margaret Scronce, Chairman
Ruth Holman
Ronald Beane

Sources

Brushy Mountain Association Minutes 1869-1884
Caldwell County Baptist Association Minutes 1884-1982
Burke County Heritage Book
Randy Gibson
Rev. R. A. Hamby
North Carolina Baptist Historical Collection, Wake Forest, N.C.
Brief Baptist Biographies 1707-1982 Vol. II by Rev. R. A. Hamby
Mountain Grove Baptist Church Minutes 1884-Present

Financial Report

In September 1889, the minutes of Mountain Grove Baptist Church state that a motion was made to pay the pastor \$12.00 a year for his services. This was approved.

In 1893, it was agreed to take a monthly collection. In April, 1893 the church agreed to pay the pastor \$12.00 for his services. He agreed to pay \$6.00 on the church house if the church would complete it. If not, he would keep the full amount.

In April, 1898, the following resolutions were adopted:

1. That the church appoint a committee of five to assess the members of the church to defray the expenses of the church.
2. That said committee should assess the members according as the Lord has blessed them in store and health.
3. That no member shall be allowed a letter of dismission until he or she pay his or her assessment or church dues.
4. That said committee shall make an investigation of what each member is able to pay and make assessment accordingly.

July 11, 1909, Stated that people who are behind on their pastor's salary are not granted a letter (behind in their dues) March 12, 1910, In business meeting moved and second that the deacon apportion the members as the Lord has blessed them.

August 11, 1911, Girls were appointed to collect mission funds.

From time to time during the year, the person responsible for the pastor's salary was called upon to report.

From the beginning our church pledged \$1.00 per year to Foreign Missions. Some years later they also pledged \$1.00 to Home Missions.

Our budget in 1884 was	\$12.00
Our budget in 1984 is	\$152,237.13

The present value of all properties of Mountain Grove Baptist Church is \$1,184,100.00

Membership Roll of Mountain Grove Baptist Church

A

Aldridge, Donald
Alley, David
Anderson, Calvin
Anderson, Brenda
Andrews, Valerie M.
Annas, Gary
Annas, Junior
Annas, Richard
Austin, Roger
Austin, Beth
Autrey, Jeter & Mrs. Jeter

B

Barnes, Earl
Barnes, Lois
Bean, Howard
Bean, Mary Martha
Bean, Kitty
Bean, R. J.
Bean, Clara
Beane, Lucille
Beane, Carroll
Beane, Verna
Beane, C. W.
Beane, Jean
Beane, Donald
Beane, Fredroc
Beane, Almonta
Beane, Floyd
Beane, Guy
Beane, Kenny
Beane, Dulsie
Beane, Larry
Beane, Laura Jean
Beane, Ray
Beane, Ivana
Beane, Keith
Beane, Robin
Beane, Ronald
Beane, Christine
Beane, Scott
Beane, Paige
Beane, Mrs. Sturgis (Betty)
Beane, Wayne
Beane, Sylvia
Beane, Jeff
Beane, Kenneth
Beane, Winifred
Beard, Teresa McCrary

Beard, Wayne
Beard, Brenda
Beard, Donna
Beard, Billy
Beck, Hattie
Beck, Gilbert
Bentley, Benny
Bentley, Mary
Bentley, Ann
Bentley, Terry
Bentley, Danny
Bentley, Sherry
Bentley, Jerry
Bentley, Beth
Bentley, Jerry
Bentley, Linda
Bentley, Dale
Bentley, Junior
Bentley, Linda
Bentley, Michael
Bentley, Michelle
Bentley, Tom
Bentley, Muriel
Bentley, Tim
Biddix, Rodney
Biddix, Martha
Bivens, Darrin
Bolick, Harold
Bolick, Tena
Bolick, Terry
Blevins, Hazel
Blevins, Richard
Blevins, Brenda
Blevins, Chris
Blevins, Amanda
Bolick, Allen
Bolick, Bertha
Bolick, Janie Smith
Bolick, Lee
Bolick, Mary
Bolick, Michael
Bolick, Midas
Bolick, Kate
Bolick, Parks
Bolick, Bernice
Bolick, Ray
Bolick, Margaret
Bolick, Wayne
Bolick, Joyce
Bollinger, Jay
Bollinger, Mrs. Jennie

Bollinger, William
Bowman, Thomas
Bowman, Esther
Bowman, Tommy
Boyette, Brenda Carpenter
Braswell, Carl
Braswell, Harriet
Braswell, Larry
Buckner, Clayton
Buckner, Marlene
Buckner, Ken
Buckner, Lisa
Bumgarner, Thomas
Bumgarner, Patricia
Buff, Marlene

C

Calloway, Carol Jane
Calloway, Paul
Calloway, Glenda
Calloway, Johnny
Cannon, Carl
Cannon, Shelia
Cannon, Andrea
Cannon, Gene
Cannon, Glenn
Cannon, Ruth
Cannon, J. C.
Cannon, Felix
Cannon, Rachel
Cannon, Nadene
Cannon, Joel
Cannon, Pam
Cannon, Lois
Cannon, Peggy
Cannon, Terry
Cannon, Timmy
Cannon, Wayne
Carpenter, Eugene
Carpenter, Fred
Carpenter, Adele
Carpenter, Gary
Carpenter, Homer
Carpenter, Ella
Carpenter, Junior
Carpenter, Michael
Carpenter, Jodie
Carpenter, Ruth
Carswell, Brenda B.
Carver, Ronnie

Chandler, Larry
 Chandler, LaDonna
 Chandler, Brian
 Chandler, Lori
 Chapman, William
 Chester, Doug
 Chester, Barbara
 Chester, Wesley
 Chester, Krystal
 Chester, Keith & Janey
 Church, Don
 Church, Bonnie
 Church, Mike
 Church, Terry
 Church, Donna
 Church, Linda
 Church, Michelle
 Clark, Frank
 Clark, Juanita
 Cline, Homer
 Cline, Carolyn
 Cline, Jennifer
 Cline, Mary
 Coe, Sheila Ann
 Coffey, Elma
 Collins, Ila
 Compton, Robert
 Compton, Anne
 Conway, Harry
 Conway, Earlene
 Conway, Ronald
 Cooper, Weldon
 Cooper, Louise
 Cozart, Luther
 Cozart, Mary
 Creger, David
 Creger, Shirley
 Creger, Mike
 Crotts, Genette
 Crouse, Arthur, Sr.
 Crouse, Addie
 Crouse, Arthur, Jr.
 Crouse, Helen
 Crowe, David
 Crowe, Barbara
 Curtis, Carroll
 Curtis, Kathleen

D

Davis, Carol
 Davis, Mabel G.
 Dean, Bobby
 Dean, Kathy
 Dean, Bobby, Jr.
 Deitz, Alice B.
 Dollar, Beverly B.
 Dula, Gaither
 Dula, Sue

Dula, Gloria
 Dula, Angela
 Dula, Shpie
 Duncan, Greg
 Duncan, Willard
 Duncan, Gail
E Earley, Harold
 Earley, Rachel
 Earley, Jane
 Earley, Robert
 Earley, Julie
 Earley, Viele
 Eller, Jamie
 Eller, J. R.
 Eller, Dorothy
 Ellis, Hoyt
 Ellis, Jennie
 Ellis, Sue
 Elrod, Howard
 Elrod, Ruth
 Elrod, David

F

Fair, Arnold
 Fair, Kathy
 Farr, James Terry, Jr.
 Fleming, James
 Fletcher, Mack
 Fletcher, Florine
 Fosters, Melonie Crowe
 Franklin, Bill
 Franklin, Nancy
 Franklin, Steve
 Franklin, Sue
 Franklin, Edward
 Franklin, Waylene
 Frye, Clifford
 Frye, Velma

G

Greer, Mildred Beane
 Geouge, Dennie
 Geouge, Kay
 Geouge, Ed
 Geouge, Mildred
 Gibbs, William
 Gibbs, Cleon
 Gilbert, Randy
 Gill, Rosemary
 Glazebrooks, Margie
 Gragg, Mrs. Frankie
 Grant, Lynn
 Greene, Rinda
 Greene, George
 Greene, Mildred
 Greene, Kathy
 Greene, Howard
 Greene, Virgie

Greene, James
 Greene, Faye
 Greene, Jim
 Greene, Judy
 Greene, Vonnice
 Greene, J. S.
 Greene, LaVerne
 Greene, Katie
 Greene, Reggy
 Greene, Jennifer
 Greene, Richard
 Greene, Rick
 Greene, Sharon
 Greene, Mr. & Mrs. R. W.
 Greene, Vance
 Greene, Dot
 Greer, Tommy

H

Hamby, Allen
 Hamby, Betty
 Hamby, Howard
 Hamby, Sarah
 Hames, Loyd, Sr.
 Hames, Judy
 Hamlet, Willard
 Hamlet, Hazel
 Harris, Melvina Pa.
 Hart, Wade
 Hart, Arlea
 Hartley, Eric
 Hartley, Barbara
 Hartley, Wade
 Hartley, Edith
 Hartzog, Donald
 Hartzog, Gwen
 Hartzog, April
 Hartzog, Laura
 Harbin, Virginia
 Hayes, Ernest
 Hayes, Georgia
 Hayes, Sue Smith
 Haynes, Trevia K.
 Heffner, Violet
 Heffner, Judith
 Helderman, Carroll
 Helderman, Annie
 Helderman, Edward
 Helton, Terry
 Helton, Peggy
 Herman, Bertha
 Herman, Dale
 Herman, Cindy
 Herman, Wayne
 Herman, Betty
 Hoglen, Lonnie
 Hoglen, Mrs. Lonnie
 Hollar, Alvin

Hollar, Clyde
 Hollar, Viola
 Hollar, Esper
 Hollar, Ted
 Hollar, Linda
 Holman, Haywood
 Holman, Ruth
 Holsclaw, Terry
 Holsclaw, Dianne
 Holsclaw, Sharon
 Holsclaw, Gregg
 Honeycutt, Murl
 Honeycutt, Nancy Kaylor
 Hood, Carrie R.
 Hood, Faye
 Hood, Frank
 Hood, Beola
 Hood, J. D.
 Hood, Gale
 Hood, Murl
 Hood, Virgie
 Hopkins, Dennis
 Hopkins, Suzanne
 Hoover, Elaine
 Huskey, Jean K.

I

Isenhour, Betty
 Isenhour, Ron
 Isenhour, Brenda

J

Jackson, Robert
 Jett, Harvey
 Jett, Maxine
 Jett, Maleah
 Jett, Marty
 Jett, Scott
 Jett, John, Jr.
 Jett, Carol
 Jones, Lisa
 Johnson, Hurley
 Johnson, Van
 Johnson, Ward
 Johnson, Marie

K

Kaylor, Garland
 Kaylor, Edna
 Kaylor, JoAnne
 Kaylor, Ronnie
 Kaylor, Debbie
 Kaylor, Murl
 Kaylor, Viola
 Keller, Jerri Laney
 Keller, Renee B.
 Kimberlin, Blaine

Kimberlin, Carla
 Kimberlin, Garth
 Kimberlin, J. R.
 Kimberlin, Gladys
 Kimberlin, Rodney
 Kirby, Linda G.
 Kiziah, Clyde
 Kiziah, Mable
 Kiziah, Randy

L

Laney, William
 Laney, Mary Lou
 Larew, Dale
 Larew, Jo
 Lee, Connie Bolick
 Lewis, Pearl
 Lingle, Charles
 Lingle, Ray
 Lingle, Lucille
 Logan, Jim
 Logan, Billy
 Lomax, Mark
 Long, Janice
 Long, Angie
 Long, Marsha

M

Mann, John
 Mann, Sylvia
 Mast, Katie Lou Annas
 Mathis, Charles
 Mathis, Vicki
 Matthews, Jack
 Matthews, Darlene
 Matthews, Melody
 Medford, Becky Cannon
 Melton, Fred
 Melton, Floy
 Miller, Doris C.
 Miller, Jim
 Miller, Betty
 Miller, Sherman
 Miller, Mr. & Mrs. Vernon
 Mooney, Randa
 Moore, Walter
 Moore, Hazel
 Moore, Mike
 Moore, Tammy
 Moore, Tracie
 Moore, Jackie P.
 Moore, Judy
 Moretz, Lester
 Moretz, Marie
 Morris, C. V.
 Morris, Doris
 Morris, Steve
 Morris, Cora Lee
 Munday, Bertha
 Munday, Jim

Munday, Mary
 Munday, Roy
 Munday, Floy
 Munday, Ward
 Munday, Mildred
 McCaleb, Donald
 McCaleb, Thelma
 McCaleb, Mike
 McCreary, Max
 McCreary, Pat
 McCreary, David
 McCreary, Bryan
 McDaris, John
 McGinnis, Alpha
 McGinnis, Mr. H. M.
 McGinnis, James
 McGinnis, Wilma
 McLean, Anna

N

Newcomb, David
 Newcomb, Ruth
 Nichols, Brenda F.

O

Offenbacher, Billy

P

Parlier, Inez
 Pearson, A. Lee
 Pearson, Blanche
 Pearson, Ben
 Pearson, Lena
 Pennell, Joel
 Perkins, Brian
 Perrou, Agenes
 Piercy, Glenn
 Pope, Callie
 Pope, Lonnie
 Pope, Reba
 Pope, Vonda
 Pope, Kim
 Powell, Carol
 Powell, Jesse
 Powell, Gwen
 Prestwood, George
 Prestwood, Jane
 Prestwood, Donald
 Prestwood, Robin
 Price, Doreen
 Price, Janice Bolick
 Price, John
 Price, Ann
 Pritchard, Debbie Cavin
 Pritchard, Jack
 Pritchard, Wanda
 Pritchard, Melonie S.
 Pruitt, Laura Jane

R

Rader, Earl & Muriel
Reed, Jerry
Riggs, Lois
Robbins, Clifford
Robbins, Delores
Robbins, Todd
Robbins, Jason
Robinson, Sherry
Robinson, Rudy

S

Saunders, John
Saunders, Rachel
Scronce, Margaret
Seagle, Dot
Seagle, Ted
Sharpe, Junior
Sharpe, Lillie
Sharpe, Robin
Shields, Pauline
Shukis, Mary Ellen
Coffey, Melanie
Smith, Billy
Smith, Charlotte
Smith, Chris
Smith, Dan
Smith, Wanda
Smith, Marty
Smith, Debbie
Smith, Dwayne
Smith, Ellis Monroe, Jr.
Smith, Gordon
Smith, Mae
Smith, Lois
Smith, J. Allan
Smith, Donna
Smith, Eric
Smith, James (Demp)
Smith, Eula
Smith, Jerry
Smith, Jim
Smith, Anna Dean
Smith, Larry
Smith, Lona
Smith, Monroe
Smith, Sally
Smith, Rachel
Smith, Renee
Smith, Michelle
Smith, Robert V.
Smith, Barbara
Smith, Darrell
Smith, Ronald
Smith, Rose Allie Holman
Smith, Terry
Smith, Lynn

Smith, Tim
Smith, Cindy
Smith, Toby
Smith, Kim
Smith, Verita
Smith, W. C.
Smith, Alma
Smith, Wilda
Smith, Keith
Stafford, Robert L.
Starnes, Jerry
Starnes, Janice
Stephens, Clifford
Stephens, Joyce
Stephens, Crystal
Stevens, Betty Kaylor
Story, Copley (Corkey)
Story, Troy
Sturgill, Marie
Suddreth, Monica
Suddreth, Robert G.
Sullivan, Robert
Sullivan, Deborah
Sutton, Mrs. A. K.
Swanson, Viola

T

Teague, Faye
Tilley, Warren
Tilley, Carolyn
Truesdale, Gene
Truesdale, Barbara
Tucker, Glennie

W

Walker, Garland
Walker, Pat
Walker, Tim
Walker, Penny
Wallace, R. J.
Wallace, Billie
Walter, Leonard
Watson, Clyde
Watson, Shelby
Watson, Floyd
Watson, Virginia
Wesson, Helen G.
Wheeler, Bonnie M.
Wheeling, Larry
Wheeling, Mary Linda
Whisenant, Jay
Whisenant, Ruth
White, Effie Cannon
Willix, Kenneth
Willix, Modene
Wilson, Elizabeth
Winkler, Vernie

Winkler, Virgil
Winkler, Myrtle
Winkler, Dorman
Woodie, Larry
Woddie, Carolyn
Woodie, Michael
Woodring, Shirley

